

# **Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet**

Skokomish Indian Tribe, Skokomish Reservation, WA

## **EPA Brownfields Program**

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

# **Community Description**

The Skokomish Indian Tribe was selected to receive an assessment grant. The Skokomish Indian Reservation is located on the delta of the Skokomish River where it empties into the Great Bend of the Hood Canal on Washington's Olympic Peninsula. Approximately 70 percent of the 730 individuals living on the reservation are enrolled members of the tribe. The reservation and surrounding communities in Mason County historically have been among the most impoverished in Washington State. The current tribal unemployment rate is 37 percent and Mason County's unemployment rate is nearly double the national average. The county's median household income is almost 28 percent below the state average and 19 percent of children in the county live in poverty. The tribe is in the final stages of purchasing an abandoned transportation maintenance



## **Assessment Grant**



#### \$110,939 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Skokomish Indian Tribe for a brownfields assessment grant. The tribe intends to use grant funds to assess the extent of contamination at the abandoned state transportation maintenance yard located on the Skokomish Reservation. Grant funds also will be used to conduct cleanup planning for the site, which the tribe hopes to redevelop into a wastewater treatment plant.

### **Contacts**

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 10 Brownfields Team 206-553-2100

http://www.epa.gov/r10earth, click on "Superfund", scroll down and click on "Brownfields"

Grant Recipient: Skokomish Indian Tribe, WA 360-877-5213

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, the Skokomish Indian Tribe has not received funding for brownfields grants.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

yard. The proposed wastewater treatment plant will dramatically decrease groundwater contamination stemming from the site, as well as enable residential and commercial expansion and provide opportunities for business and residential development.